

Better Buildings, Better Plants Challenge: Partnership Agreement

The **Better Buildings, Better Plants Challenge** is a Presidential leadership initiative which calls on chief executive officers, university presidents, and state and local leaders to create American jobs through energy efficiency. **Challenge Partners** will make 'public commitments to action' and implement their plans to achieve lasting energy savings, improve our environment, and reduce our dependency on foreign oil.

The Partner Agrees to:

✓ Commit

- Assign a **senior executive** within 1 month to fulfill Better Buildings, Better Plants Challenge commitments
- **Publicly pledge an organization energy-savings goal for the next 2–5 years**
- Announce the use of one or more **innovative energy efficiency implementation models** within 6 months

✓ Take Action

- Publicly **announce an initial showcase project** within 3 months and initiate the project within 9 months. Showcase project may include whole building improvement, a project over \$1 million, or a project to improve energy efficiency by 10% or more in a single facility
- Develop an **organization-wide energy management plan and schedule** to achieve energy savings pledge within 9 months

✓ Report Results

- **Share information** on the energy efficiency implementation models used to achieve the energy-savings pledge
- Make available **portfolio-wide facility-level energy performance data** within 9 months; flexibility provided for proprietary information
- **Provide quarterly updates on progress** with energy efficiency implementation models and a showcase project. Provide annual information on energy savings across the organization and energy performance at the facility level as the basis for recognition

The Department of Energy (DOE) Agrees to:

✓ Assist

- Provide **technical assistance** and **energy efficiency implementation models** to support Partners' commitment to measure, track, and improve portfolio energy performance
- Collaborate with Partner on a regular basis

✓ Connect

- **Establish a marketplace of energy efficiency stakeholders**, such as government, industry, service providers, financial institutions, and technology companies
- **Connect Partners** with Financial Allies that commit to transparency and 'good faith' efforts to evaluate projects, Technology Allies that commit to providing innovative products, and Service Allies that commit to provide best practice business models for energy savings and disclosure of results

✓ Recognize Success

- **Provide national recognition to Partners** for achieving program milestones and energy efficiency results
- **Showcase Partners** who leverage, develop, and share innovative and cost-effective energy efficiency implementation models

Agreement:

My organization is committed to continuous improvement in energy efficiency and agrees to the General Terms of the Better Buildings, Better Plants Challenge.

CEO or Senior Executive Officer

Contact Information:

Company: _____ Address: _____
Name: _____ Phone Number: _____
Title: _____ E-mail: _____
More Specific Commitment: _____

General Terms

- Both parties concur that this agreement is wholly voluntary and may be terminated by either party at any time, and for any reason, with no penalty.
- Partner will not construe, claim, or imply that its participation in the Better Buildings, Better Plants Challenge constitutes federal government approval, acceptance, or endorsement of anything other than Partner's commitment to the program.
- Partner understands its participation in the Better Buildings, Better Plants Challenge does not constitute federal government endorsement of Partner or its buildings, homes, products, services, or industrial facilities.
- Partner understands that the activities it undertakes in connection with the Better Buildings, Better Plants Challenge are voluntary and not intended to provide services to the federal government. Partner will not submit a claim for compensation to any federal agency.
- The Better Buildings, Better Plants Challenge will honor all requests to keep the Partner's information and data confidential.